Programme Regulations
2024–2025

Accounting and Financial Management
MSc

Computer Science
MSc/PGDip/PGCert

Important document – please read
This document contains important information that governs your registration, assessment and programme of study

Contents

Important information regarding the Programme Regulations

Last revised 6 February 2024

As a student registered with the University of London you are governed by the current General Regulations and Programme Regulations associated with your programme of study.

These Programme Regulations are designed and developed by the University of London which is responsible for the academic direction of the programme. The Programme Regulations will provide the detailed rules and guidance for your programme of study.

In addition to Programme Regulations you will have to abide by the General Regulations. These regulations apply to all students registered for a programme of study with the University of London and provide the rules governing registration and assessment on all programmes; they also indicate what you may expect on completion of your programme of study and how you may pursue a complaint, should that be necessary. Programme Regulations should be read in conjunction with the General Regulations.

The relevant General Regulations and the Programme Regulations relating to your registration with us are for the current year and not the year in which you initially registered.

On all matters where the regulations are to be interpreted, or are silent, our decision will be final.

Further information about your programme of study is outlined in the Programme Specification which is available on the relevant Courses page of the website. The Programme Specification gives a broad overview of the structure and content of the programme as well as the learning outcomes students will achieve as they progress.

Terminology

The following language is specific to the MSc Programmes in these regulations:

Module: Individual units of the programme are called module. Each module is a self-contained, formally structured learning experience with a coherent and explicit set of learning outcomes and assessment criteria.

Compulsory module: A 15-credit module that must be taken.

Core module: A compulsory 15-credit module that must be registered for first.

Optional module: A 15-credit module that is chosen from a number of options. This applies solely to students registered on certain programmes.

Study session: There are four study sessions in a year, each lasting 10 weeks. Sessions begin in October, January, April and July. Each session is following by an assessment submission point.

Resitting the assessment of a failed module: When you resit a failed module you will not be allocated a tutor group but you will have access to the learning materials on the VLE and you will be required to resubmit your summative assessment.

Repeating a failed module: When you repeat a failed module you will be allocated a tutor group, you will have access to the learning materials on the VLE and you will be required to resubmit your summative assessment.

Throughout the Regulations, 'we' 'us' and 'our' mean the University of London; 'you' and 'your' mean the student, or where applicable, all students.

If you have a query about any of the programme information provided please contact us. You should use the *ask a question* button in the student portal.

Postgraduate Delivery Model Programmes

The following Postgraduate programmes are awarded under these regulations.

Programme pages can be accessed directly through these links:

- [Accounting and Financial Management](#)

- [Computer Science](#)

Significant changes to the 2024-25 Programme Regulations

Regulation 3.1 has been updated to note that for MSc Accounting and Financial Management, students may apply for up to 60 credits in recognition of prior learning from a list of accepted professional qualifications, which may also be applied to the exit qualification of PGDip Accounting and Financial Management

Regulation 4.2 has been added to note that, in order to complete within your maximum period of registration, you should normally register for at least 30 credits per academic year. Note that to complete the MSc within the 5-year maximum period of registration, you will need to complete more than 30 credits in at least one of those academic years to bring your total credits to 180 credits. Advance notice of this change was provided in the 2023-24 Programme Regulations.

Section 5, Assessments for the programme, has been updated to note that, once registered for a module, you are required to complete the assessment(s) of that module. Unsubmitted elements of assessment will receive a mark of 0. Advance notice of this change was provided in the 2023-24 Programme Regulations.

Regulation 8.4 has been updated. The requirement for the Project module mark to be above 60% in order to be granted the qualification with Merit has been removed. The requirement for the mean mark for all modules to be between 60% to 69% for Merit remains.

Regulation 8.5 has been updated. The requirement for the Project module mark to be above 70% in order to be granted the qualification with Distinction has been removed. The requirement for the mean mark for all modules to be above 70% for Distinction remains.

1   Structure of the programmes

Appendix B gives the syllabuses and module outlines.

Qualifications

1.1

The following named qualifications are awarded under these regulations:

- Accounting and Financial Management

    - Master of Science in Accounting and Financial Management (MSc)

    - Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting and Financial Management (PGDip) (exit qualification only)

    - Postgraduate Certificate in Accounting and Financial Management (PGCert) (exit qualification only)

- Computer Science

    - Master of Science in Computer Science (MSc)

    - Postgraduate Diploma in Computer Science (PGDip)

    - Postgraduate Certificate in Computer Science (PGCert)

Qualification structure

1.2

Each MSc programme consists of:

- ten compulsory modules, including one core module that must be registered for first (15 credits each)

- one Project module (30 credits)

1.3

The PGDip consists of:

- eight modules, including one core module that must be registered for first (15 credits each)

1.4

The PGCert consists of:

- four modules, including one core module that must be registered for first (15 credits each)

Individual modules

1.5

Select modules from these programmes are available to study on a stand-alone basis, subject to module availability.

See the Programme page for information about the modules available for study on a stand-alone basis and when they run.

2   Registration

Effective date of registration

2.1

Your effective date of registration will be either:

- 1 October, if you first register before the September registration deadline.
- 1 April, if you first register before the March registration deadline;

Date of first assessments

2.2

If your effective date of registration is:

- 1 October, you will take your first end-of-module assessment(s) in December of the same year
- 1 April, you will take your first end-of-module assessment(s) in June of the same year

Study sessions

2.3

The programme has two registration points in the year. There are four study sessions in a year, each lasting 10 weeks. Sessions begin in October, January, April and July. Each session is followed by an assessment submission point.

2.4

Each 15-credit module will be taught over one 10-week session.

2.5

The Project is 30 credits and will be taught over two consecutive 10-week sessions. The project will only start in specific sessions. Refer to the module release schedule.

Period of registration

See the Programme Specification for the minimum periods of registration applicable to these qualifications. See the General Regulations for the maximum periods of registration applicable to these qualifications.

2.6

The minimum and maximum periods of registration to complete the programme are counted from your effective date of registration.

If the maximum registration period for your qualification changes during your studies, you will retain the period of registration initially given to you on registration. Your period of registration may still change if you change qualification as set out in Programme Regulations.

2.7

If you start by taking individual modules and then register for the PGCert/PGDip/MSc we will give you a new maximum period of registration for the PGCert/PGDip/MSc.

2.8

Where applicable, if you progress from a PGCert or PGDip, to the PGDip or MSc respectively, your maximum period of registration will continue to be counted from your effective date of registration for the PGCert or PGDip.

See Section 4: Module selection for information on the maximum and minimum number of modules you can register for in a study session.

3   Recognition of prior learning and credit transfer

To be read in conjunction with the General Regulations, Section 3.

Recognition of prior learning

3.1

We consider applications for recognition of prior learning (RPL) on the basis of studies successfully completed at an appropriate level. You may apply for recognition of prior learning for up to the maximum specified credits when registering for the programme.

Programme	Maximum credits
MSc Computer Science PGDip Computer Science	60 credits
MSc Accounting and Financial Management PGDip Accounting and Financial Management (exit qualification only)	60 credits from a list of accepted professional qualifications
PGCert Computer Science PGCert Accounting and Financial Management (exit qualification only)	Not considered

3.2

Applications for recognition of prior learning for the Project will not be accepted.

4   Module selection

4.1

You may register for a minimum of **15** new credits per session. In any one session, you may register for a maximum of **45** credits in a combination of new or failed modules, of which a maximum of **30** credits may be made up of new modules per session.

A new module is a module you have not registered for previously or for which a previous attempt was invalid.

In a session where you are registered for the Project, this will count as 15 credits per session.

4.2

In order to complete within your maximum period of registration, you should normally register for at least 30 credits per academic year. Note that to complete the MSc within the 5-year maximum period of registration, you will need to complete more than 30 credits in at least one of those academic years to bring your total credits to 180 credits.

If you would like to pause or interrupt your study, you will be required to submit a formal request in accordance with the UoL Additional Considerations policy in the Student Portal.

4.3

You must register for the core module in your first study session.

Module availability

4.4

Where the learning experience may be compromised due to low student registrations, we may consider deferring the module to a later session.

4.5

The core module will run in each October and April study session.

4.6

All other modules will ordinarily run only once a year, subject to the module running schedule.

Not all modules will run in every study session.

We will inform you of any such changes as early as possible and provide you with reasonable alternative arrangements.

5   Assessment for the programme

Summary of assessment

See Appendix B for the specific assessment for each module.

5.1

All modules are assessed by either one or two elements of assessment.

5.2

15 credit modules with two elements of assessment are assessed by one online test (for example, multiple choice question tests (MCQs), other quiz-type questions and/or auto-graded problem-solving task) weighted at 25% and one unseen written end of term coursework or online assessment weighted at 75%.

5.3

15 credit modules with one element of assessment are assessed by one unseen written end of term coursework or online assessment.

5.4

30 credit Project modules with two elements of assessment are assessed by a research proposal weighted at 30% and the final project weighted at 70%.

Details about assessment methods for each module are available in the programme structures in [Appendix A](#) and in the [Programme Specifications](#)

Passing assessments

5.5

You must complete the assessment for a module when you register for the module.

5.6

The pass mark for each module is 50%. Where there is more than one element of assessment for a module, you do not need to pass each element of assessment, although you do need to obtain an overall weighted mark of 50% in each module. Unsubmitted elements of assessment will receive a mark of 0.

5.7

For a module with two elements of assessment, if you do not submit the first or second element of assessment, or neither, you will receive a mark of zero for the unsubmitted element(s) and this will count as an attempt at the module. Your module mark will still be based on the overall weighted mark.

5.8

For the Project, if you do not submit the research proposal, you will not be permitted to submit the final project. You will receive a mark of zero for the unsubmitted elements and this will count as an attempt at the module.

5.9

You must make a second attempt at the assessment for a module you have failed, provided that you have not exceeded the maximum number of attempts at the assessment/s. If there are two elements of assessment for the module, all assessment elements will need to be attempted.

See [General Regulations](#) for Rules for taking written assessments.

If you need to defer a module, you will be required to submit a formal request in accordance with the UoL Additional Considerations policy in the [Student Portal](#).

Mitigating circumstances

5.10

For 15 credit modules where there is more than one element of assessment, mitigating circumstances will only be accepted for the second, higher weighted element of assessment.

5.11

For the Project, mitigating circumstances will be accepted for either element of assessment.

See the website for information on the submission of [mitigating circumstances](#).

Penalty for exceeding the word count

5.12

For coursework elements and online examinations with a given word limit, you should not exceed the word limit by more than 10%. If the word count is between 10% to 20% above the word limit, the assessment will receive a five mark penalty. If the word count exceeds the word limit by more than 20% you will receive a mark of zero for your work.

Late submission of coursework elements

5.13

You must keep to the deadlines given on the VLE. Coursework elements that are submitted after the deadline will not be marked and you will receive a zero for the element.

6　Number of attempts permitted at an assessment element

6.1

The maximum number of attempts permitted for any element of assessment is two.

6.2

You will fail the assessment if your overall weighted mark for the module is below 50%.

6.3

You must make a second attempt at the assessment for a module you have failed, provided that you have not exceeded the maximum number of attempts at the assessment/s. If there are two elements of assessment for the module, all assessment elements will need to be attempted.

6.4

If you pass the module overall with a mark of 50% or above, you will not be permitted to make a second attempt at any assessment element.

Resitting the assessment of a failed module (Computer Science only)

If you resit the assessment for a module, you will have to pay a fee when you re-register for the module to resit the assessment. The fee payable is outlined in the fee schedule.

You will not be allocated a tutor group but will have access to the learning materials on the VLE and will be required to resubmit your summative assessment.

Check the Programme Structure in Appendix A for whether a module offers a resit opportunity.

6.5

If you fail the assessment for a module held in the October session or the January session, your resit opportunity will be the July session of the same academic year.

6.6

If you fail the assessment for a module held in the April session or the July session, your resit opportunity will be in January of the following academic year.

6.7

If you do not make a second attempt at a failed module at the first opportunity, you will be required to repeat the module in full. **You will be required to pay the full module fee.**

Repeating a failed module

If you repeat a module, you will have to pay the full module fee when you re-register for the module. When you repeat a failed module you will be allocated a tutor group, you will have access to the learning materials on the VLE and you will be required to resubmit your summative assessment.

Please note that the assessment brief may change each session and you are required to respond to the brief for the session you are registered for.

6.8

You may choose when you repeat a failed module. You do not have to take the assessment at the next available study session.

7 Progression within the programme

See Section 4: Assessment for the programme for method of assessment.

7.1

You must have passed 60 credits before you register for the Project.

Progression between qualifications within a programme

7.2

Successful completion of the PGCert Computer Science will allow you to progress to the MSc or PGDip Computer Science. Final results ratified at the exam board will be used as the basis for progression.

7.3

If you are registered on a lower qualification and wish to transfer your registration to a higher qualification, you should notify us before you enter for final assessments for the lower qualification.

As the entrance requirements for the PGDip and MSc Computer Science are the same, you do not need to successfully complete the PGDip Computer Science to transfer to the MSc Computer Science. However, transfer of registration cannot take place whilst a study session is live and before results for this session are ratified by the exam board.

Individual modules

See Section 1:Structure of the programmes for information about stand-alone individual module availability.

7.4

You may take three modules (45 credits total) on a stand-alone basis without being registered for a PGCert, PGDip or MSc under these regulations, subject to availability of standalone individual modules. If you apply to progress to a PGCert, PGDip or MSc and this is approved, you may be credited with any individual modules successfully completed.

7.5

If you subsequently join the programme and have not passed the core module you must register on this module in your first session.

Transfer from individual modules

7.6

A mark awarded for completion of an individual module may not be used to replace any mark for a degree, diploma or certificate already awarded.

7.7

If you are registered on standalone individual modules and you wish to transfer your registration to the PGCert, PGDip or MSc, you must meet the entrance requirements for Direct Entry or for Performance Based Admission (PBA).

7.8

If you only meet the entrance requirements for Performance Based Admission (PBA) but have already successfully completed two individual modules on a standalone basis (30 credits total), you will be permitted to transfer your registration directly onto the MSc, PGDip or PGCert via the Direct Entry route.

7.9

Only three modules (a maximum of 45 credits) may be counted as credit towards an MSc, PGDip or PGCert.

If you request to transfer from standalone individual modules to the MSc, PGDip or PGCert and are currently undertaking the study for these modules, transfer of registration cannot take place whilst a study session is live and before results for this session are ratified by the exam board.

8   Schemes of award

Marking criteria

See [Appendix C](#) for the Assessment Criteria.

8.1

All assessments will be marked according to the published Assessment Criteria.

Mark scheme

8.2

The following mark scheme is used for the MSc, PGDip and PGCert:

Mark range	Outcome
70% and over	Distinction
60% – 69%	Merit
50% – 59%	Pass
0% – 49%	Fail

8.3

To calculate the final grade for the qualification, the marks for modules are weighted equally, with the exception of the Project which is double weighted.

8.4

To be granted the qualification with Merit, your mean average mark for all modules must be between 60% and 69%.

8.5

To be granted the qualification with Distinction, your mean average mark for all modules must be 70% or above.

Date of award

8.6

The date of award will correspond to the year that the requirements for the award were satisfied.

Exit qualifications

8.7

If you have exhausted your permitted number of attempts at module(s) and are unable to complete the MSc or PGDip, you may be considered for an exit qualification of PGDip or PGCert (respectively). In such circumstances, you will need to have achieved the credits required for a PGDip (120 credits) or PGCert (60 credits) and have successfully completed the required modules for the qualification concerned.

8.8

If you have not completed the required modules, but you have completed the required number of credits for a PGDip (120 credits) or PGCert (60 credits), the Board of Examiners may, at its discretion, consider you for an exit qualification.

8.9

The exit qualification of PGDip or PGCert will be with effect from the year in which you satisfied the requirements for that award. Your registration will cease once the exit qualification has been granted.

Appendix A – Structure of the programmes

A detailed outline of the module syllabus is provided on the Programme page, under structure

MSc Accounting and Finance Management

Before registering for other modules, you are *strongly advised* to register for:

Financial Accounting Frameworks (FAF) (AFM010);

Management Accounting Frameworks (MAF) (AFM020);

Financial Management Essentials (FME) (AFM030);

Advanced Financial Analysis (AFA) (AFM040);

Advanced Management Accounting (AMA) (AFM050).

If you register for other modules before those listed above, you risk not performing to the best of your ability. Any attempts will count on your record.

For the qualification of MSc Accounting and Financial Management you must pass

- The core module (worth 15 credits):
    - AFM010 Financial Accounting Frameworks (FAF) **
- Plus the following compulsory modules (each worth 15 credits):
    - AFM020 Management Accounting Frameworks (MAF) **
    - AFM030 Financial Management Essentials (FME) **
    - AFM040 Advanced Financial Analysis (AFA) **
    - AFM050 Advanced Management Accounting (AMA) **
    - AFM060 Corporate Governance, Audit and Assurance (CGAA) *
    - AFM070 Global Issues in Finance and Accounting (GIFA) *
    - AFM080 Analysing Risk for Decision Making (ARDM) *
    - AFM090 Issues in Investment Management (IIM) *
    - AFM100 Capital Markets and Global Perspectives (CMGP) *
- One compulsory Project module AFM500 (worth 30 credits) **

* One element of assessment

** Two elements of assessment

MSc Computer Science

It is *strongly advised* that you attempt the assessment of the *Principles of Programming* module before commencing study of the following modules:

Object-Oriented Programming;

Software Design and Programming;

Applied Machine Learning;

Data Management.

It is *strongly advised* that you attempt the assessment of the *Object-Oriented Programming* module before commencing study of the *Software Design and Programming* module.

If you do not follow the advice above, you risk not performing to the best of your ability. Any attempts will count on your record.

For the qualification of MSc Computer Science you must pass

- The core module (worth 15 credits):
  - CSM090 Principles of Programming **
- Plus the following compulsory modules (each worth 15 credits)
  - CSM010 Applied Machine Learning **
  - CSM020 Cloud Computing **
  - CSM030 Computer Systems *
  - CSM040 Data Management *
  - CSM050 Fundamentals of Computing *
  - CSM060 Information Security *
  - CSM070 Information Systems *
  - CSM080 Object-Oriented Programming **
  - CSM100 Software Design and Programming **
- One compulsory Project module CSM500 (worth 30 credits) **

* One element of assessment

** Two elements of assessment

Modules on this programme have an available resit opportunity.

PGDip Computer Science

It is *strongly advised* that you attempt the assessment of the *Principles of Programming* module before commencing study of the following modules:

Object-Oriented Programming;

Software Design and Programming;

Applied Machine Learning;

Data Management.

It is *strongly advised* that you attempt the assessment of the *Object-Oriented Programming* module before commencing study of the *Software Design and Programming* module.

If you do not follow the advice above, you risk not performing to the best of your ability. Any attempts will count on your record.

For the qualification of PGDip Computer Science, you must pass

- Any **eight** modules (each worth 15 credits) chosen from:
    - CSM010 Applied Machine Learning **
    - CSM020 Cloud Computing **
    - CSM030 Computer Systems *
    - CSM040 Data Management *
    - CSM050 Fundamentals of Computing *
    - CSM060 Information Security *
    - CSM070 Information Systems *
    - CSM080 Object-Oriented Programming **
    - CSM090 Principles of Programming **
    - CSM100 Software Design and Programming **

* One element of assessment

** Two elements of assessment

Modules on this programme have an available resit opportunity.

PGCert Computer Science

It is *strongly advised* that you attempt the assessment of the *Principles of Programming* module before commencing study of the following modules:

Object-Oriented Programming;

Software Design and Programming;

Applied Machine Learning;

Data Management.

It is *strongly advised* that you attempt the assessment of the *Object-Oriented Programming* module before commencing study of the *Software Design and Programming* module.

If you do not follow the advice above, you risk not performing to the best of your ability. Any attempts will count on your record.

For the qualification of PGCert Computer Science, you must pass

- Any **four** modules (each worth 15 credits) chosen from:
    - CSM010 Applied Machine Learning **
    - CSM020 Cloud Computing **
    - CSM030 Computer Systems *
    - CSM040 Data Management *
    - CSM050 Fundamentals of Computing *
    - CSM060 Information Security *
    - CSM070 Information Systems *
    - CSM080 Object-Oriented Programming **
    - CSM090 Principles of Programming **
    - CSM100 Software Design and Programming **

* One element of assessment

** Two elements of assessment

Modules on this programme have an available resit opportunity.

Appendix C – Assessment criteria

This is an indicative description of expectations at each grade level. Overall grades will comprise qualitative and quantitative elements. The setting of questions, tasks and requirements and the accompanying marking scheme should take account of the criteria below.

% range	Grade Descriptor	Description
85 +	Outstanding Distinction	Work of outstanding quality, showing mastery of the subject matter with a highly developed and mature ability to analyse, synthesise and apply knowledge and theory. All objectives of the task are covered and work is free of errors. There is evidence of critical reflection and the work demonstrates originality of thought. Ideas are expressed with fluency and elegance. This work meets and exceeds the standard for distinction, as described in the 70-84 band, across all sub-categories of criteria: knowledge and understanding of subject; intellectual skills; capacity to solve more unusual or demanding scenarios involving application of deep understanding of the subject and its methods/techniques; research skills; use of research-informed literature and other scholarly practices.
70-84	Distinction	Produces work of exceptional standard, reflecting excellent understanding. Displays mastery of the subject matter, with notable critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights at forefront of the field. Shows excellent ability to select and apply appropriate and relevant methodologies/techniques/theories as well as the ability to evaluate methodologies critically. Deals with complex issues systematically and creatively, making excellent judgements. Conducts research highly effectively, using technical and/or professional skills as appropriate. Shows originality in application of knowledge and the ability to communicate at a very high level arguments, evidence and conclusions to diverse audiences.
60-69	Merit	Clear understanding of the subject area producing work with a well-defined focus. Shows some originality of ideas; appropriate use of analytical techniques; appreciation of methodology; critical analysis of data; evidence of independent reading; adequate referencing and professional bibliography; adequate structure and style; reasonably professional standard of presentation with some errors of spelling, punctuation or grammar. Shows understanding and critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of the academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice. Able to communicate very effectively arguments, evidence and conclusions to specialist and non-specialist audiences.
50-59	Pass	Demonstrates a sound general knowledge and understanding of material and subject area; Shows limited originality of ideas; straight forward application of analytical techniques; limited commentary on methodology; limited critical analysis of data; limited evidence of independent reading; adequate referencing and adequate bibliography; adequate structure and style; moderately professional standard of presentation with errors of spelling, punctuation or grammar. Able to communicate effectively with a given audience. Work shows a grasp of relevant concepts and material, but with some errors, gaps or areas of confusion. Only the basic requirements of the work are covered. There is a heavy reliance on course materials and little evidence of additional reading.

% range	Grade Descriptor	Description
40-49	Fail	Demonstrates limited understanding and lacks the core knowledge of the subject area; lacking originality of ideas; limited application of analytical techniques; lacking commentary on methodology; limited critical analysis of data, little evidence of independent reading; adequate referencing and adequate bibliography; adequate structure and style; poor to moderate standard of presentation with errors of spelling, punctuation or grammar. Offers some appropriate analysis, but with some significant inconsistencies which affect the soundness of argument and/or conclusions. Demonstrates very limited critical ability producing work that is too descriptive.
0-39	Fail	Demonstrates significant weakness in the knowledge base and understanding of the subject area; simply reproducing knowledge without evidence of understanding. Shows few original ideas; limited application of analytical techniques; limited understanding of methodology; lacks commentary on methodology; no critical analysis of data; poor, inconsistent analysis; very little or no evidence of independent reading; very poor referencing and poor bibliography; poor structure and style; poor standard of presentation with significant errors of spelling, punctuation or grammar.